

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/527,069

Examiner

Mohammed Hasan

Applicant(s)

YAMADA, KATSU

Art Unit

2873

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-5,8-11 and 15-18.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>3/9/2005</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1,3-5,8-11, and 15-18 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art taken either singularly or in a combination fails to anticipate or fairly suggest the limitations of the independent claims, in such a manner that rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 or 103 would be proper. The prior art fails to teach a combination of all the claimed features as presented in independent claim 1, for example, which include a zoom lens having in order from an object side having five lens group (+, -, +, -, +) and an aperture stop is fixed with respect to the image plane and third lens group is movable in a direction perpendicular to the optical axis in order to stabilize an image and the following condition is satisfied: $0.035 < |\beta_w \cdot \beta_t / Z| < 0.075$ where β_w : magnification ratio of the second lens unit at the wide-angle end, β_t : magnification ratio of the second lens unit at the telephoto end, Z: zoom ratio and another condition $0 < (d_{45T} - d_{45N}) / (IM \cdot Z) < 0.04$ where d_{45T} : interval between the fourth lens unit and the fifth lens unit in a telephoto position, d_{45N} : interval between the fourth lens unit and the fifth lens unit when the second lens unit is in equal magnification position, IM: image size, Z: zoom ratio.
3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The closest reference as follows: Yamada et al (6,999,240 B2) discloses a zoom lens capable of correcting camera shake and being reduced in size

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and weight, comprising five groups of lenses respectively having positive, negative, positive, negative, positive refractive powers, the second lens group varying power, the fifth lens group adjusting focusing. Hamano (6,392,816 B1) discloses a variable magnification optical system and optical apparatus having the same. Hayakawa et al (6,124,972) discloses a zoom lens comprising, from front to rear, a first lens unit of positive refractive power, a second lens unit of negative refractive power, a third lens unit of positive refractive power, a fourth lens unit of negative refractive power, a fifth lens unit of positive refractive power and a sixth lens unit of negative refractive power, wherein, during zooming from the wide-angle end to telephoto end, the air separations between the i -th and $(i+1)$ st lens units are made to vary properly and the ratio of the focal length of the fourth lens unit to the longest focal length of the entire system is made to have a proper value. In particular, a zoom lens is disclosed wherein the second lens unit is made to decenter to stabilize the image. Accordingly, all of the references cited alone or in a combination with any other prior art references fail to teach or suggest the claimed conditions magnification ratio and zoom ratio.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Priority

5. Receipt of acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119 (a) – (d), which papers have placed in the file.

Oath/Declaration

6. Oath and declaration filed on 3/9/2005 is accepted.

Information Disclosure Statement

7. The prior art documents submitted by applicant in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on 3/9/2005 have all been considered and made of record (note the attached copy of form PTO – 1449).

Conclusion

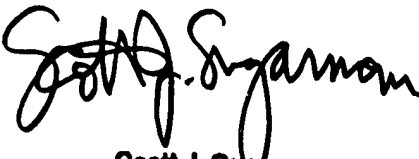
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mohammed Hasan whose telephone number is (571) 272-2331. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH, 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ricky L Mack can be reached on (571) 272- 2333. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MH
July 19, 2006



Scott J. Sugarman
Primary Examiner